

Homesteaders

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JOHN AND ELIZABETH MARSHALL BAIRD



John Baird was born May 17, 1826 at
Belentory, Antrum, Ireland, a son of Robert

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and Agnes McGown Baird. The "e" was dropped before they came to America in later years. The Baird's had a large land grant in Ireland, and later moved to Greenock, Scotland, where John became a sergeant on the police force. He married Elizabeth Marshall in 1844. She was born April 14, 1862 in Parkhead, Lanarkshire, Scotland, a daughter of William and Ann Wiley Marshall.

Converted to the LDS Church by missionaries, the Baird's left Liverpool on April 29, 1865 on the ship "Bellwood," a freighter that had been pressed into passenger service. They arrived in Castle Gardens, N. Y., in June of 1865 and moved to Williamsburg, N. Y., to prepare for the journey west. Fourteen months later they traveled in cattle cars to St. Joseph, Mo., went by river boat to Council Bluffs and then purchased a wagon, three yoke of oxen and provisions for the journey. They traveled in the Capt. Chipman company, arriving in Salt Lake City in October of 1866. They moved to Heber in November, 1866, and their last child, Martha Jane, was born in Heber on Feb. 14, 1867.

During the trip across the plains, the two oldest boys, Robert and William, obtained work driving teams and wagons, and so were separated from the rest of the family. During their journey they discovered a buffalo skull on the plains bearing news of the massacre of their family. However, when they arrived later at the Tithing Yard in Salt Lake they were overjoyed to meet their loved ones whom they presumed dead.

The family homesteaded the Baird Ranch in Lake Creek, and then later moved to Hooper, but returned to Lake Creek and Center where John served as a counselor in the bishopric to Bishop Benjamin Cluff. Elizabeth made excellent bread and always furnished bread to the ward to be used in the sacrament service. She was also adept at making clothing, soap, candles, carpets and mattresses, all by hand.

John was active in building roads, bridges reservoirs and irrigation systems in addition to his farming and ranching activities. He moved to Heber in his later years and died there at the age of 80 in 1907. Elizabeth fell on ice in 1905 and broke her hip and died of the mishap on June 14, 1905.

Their children included Robert M., born Nov. 23, 1845; William, born Nov. 3, 1849; Anne C., born Dec. 8, 1851; Elizabeth, born

March 14, 1855; John, born Oct. 2, 1857 and died as an infant; James R., born July 17, 1860; Joseph, born March 7, 1863 and died as an infant; and Martha Jane, born Feb. 14, 1867.

JOHN BATES, JR. AND
LUCINA ANGELINE KELLER
BATES



John Bates Jr. born Jan. 13, 1842, a son of John Bates, Sr., and Hannah Draycott. His wife Lucina Angeline Keller was born

*Homesteader
Pioneer
Cattle Raiser
Sheep Raiser*

April 6, 1848 in Salt Lake City. They lived first on a 160-acre homestead at Silver Creek, where they raised cattle and sheep. Soon they moved to the Bates ranch on the Provo river in Wasatch County. John Jr. died July 14, 1917. Lucina died Dec. 2, 1911.

They went through all the rigors of pioneering: building log cabins and pole fences around their farm. Lucina was busy with all her household tasks and sewing for her family of fourteen children.

Lucina Angeline was an excellent seamstress, making many beautiful dresses. She did much in caring for the sick and at times cooking for a large number of workers and neighbors. Water was some distance from their home so she did her washing on the rocks, near the stream, using her own home-made soap. She also made her own candles and wicks for coal-oil lamps.

There was always heavy snow in the winter and heavy runoff in the spring. Then, many hours were spent repairing the places where high water had washed out the road to Heber. Their ranch was close to Kamas, and not far from Francis, Summit County.

John helped build the two-room school house which was located in Francis, which many of their children attended.

Hunting and fishing were his favorite sports.

The children of John and Lucina were: Roxey Lucina, John Alvin, Emma Hannah, Hyrum Daniel, William Thades, Mary Ann Eliza, Oren Lathe, Samuel Arzo, Nancy Ann, Arthur, Maybelle Angeline, Flossy Metelda, Violet and Irene Bertha.

WILLIAM AND MARY BLAKE



William and Mary Lake Blake were born in beautiful Devonshire, England, and as young people heard the missionaries of the LDS Church, and believed their message. They met again in Utah several years later and were married in the Endowment House October 2, 1871.

The first seven years of their married life were spent in Salt Lake, and Wanship, Summit County, where the first four children were born.

In the spring of 1878 they arrived in Center Creek in an ox drawn covered wagon. William homesteaded 160 acres of land on which they settled. They built a small house in which to live, and proceeded to clear the land. It was a slow job with a grubber, but they were true pioneers and never gave up. When the family grew larger, William and the boys did some canyon work getting out logs and sawing them to mining timber. These they sold to some of the Park City mines. William also operated a creamery and grocery store, where he and his neighbors could market their milk and eggs. He hauled the produce every week to Park City market, and returned with store supplies.

The other eight members of the Blake family were born and reared in Wasatch County. Their home was usually filled with neighbors and friends enjoying games and group singing with William at the organ.

William served as Bishop of the Center Ward for about four years before moving to Provo Bench, where he could educate his children at BYU.

The Blake family loved their neighbors in Center Ward who were all so kind and helpful.

JOHN BOND



John Bond was the son of Stephen Bond and Sarah Clark (emigrants from England in 1855 and 1860—who settled in Heber in 1865), was born July 29, 1871, in a one-room log house with a dirt roof built of green cottonwood logs, which was built in one day with the help of settlers. He worked at herding cows in the hills north of town for themselves and neighbors for 2 cents per day for a number of years, doing odd jobs, gleaning wheat, etc., for feed for themselves and their chickens and pigs.

His father died December 28, 1875, leaving his mother with six children (four boys and two girls.) Father died of pneumonia from exposure as guard in the Black Hawk Indian War. He attended school beginning at eight years of age.

He worked as a boy on Heber Moulton's farm for three years. Then he learned the photography trade in Wm. Willes studio for one year at \$30. per month. Next he worked in Mark Jeffs store as delivery boy, clerk, and bookkeeper. It was there he met his wife Mary E. Jeffs, who also was a clerk. They were married in the Manti Temple by Anton H. Lund on May 24, 1892. He continued to work in the store and built the red sandstone house at about 55 E. 2nd No. St., in Heber, with the help of his wife, in 1892.

Henry Aird told him he thought he could pass the State Teachers Examinations and teach school, thus giving him the opportunity to get better wages. He did so and taught in Heber one year for \$40. per month. Wallsburg offered him \$60, so he taught there two years in a one-room log

BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS

school house with 100 pupils enrolled, including two of the Trustees.

He was called to serve a mission in 1895 for the LDS Church to the Southern States, where he worked without purse or script until April 1898. Mary came in 1897 and spent five months as a missionary. After coming home, he went east and learned undertaking and embalming. On returning home, he practiced this trade until 1907, when he moved to Duchesne and homesteaded 160 acres. He stayed one year, and because Mary's health failed, they moved to Salt Lake City. He worked in Heber City as a carpenter for 10 years during which time he built the Heber High School of pot rock stone which Mark Jeffs had contracted.

He moved to Mesa, Arizona, in 1917 with his wife and eight children, and worked as building contractor and artist. Mary died from a stroke November 12, 1946. Children: John Wallace, Orvilla, Gladys, Velda, LeRoy, Emma, Mark, Ted, and Illa.

In 1947, he married Ezell Stephenson, a widow of Holden, Utah, who had four children, two boys and two girls. He served on stake Sunday School Board and as Ward Chorister for a number of years.

THOMAS AND MARY A. OAKS
BURGESS (BROWN)

Thomas Burgess (Brown) was Samuel Israel Burgess (Tom Brown). He got into some trouble as a young man and ran away and changed his name, so was known as Tom Brown, but his name was Samuel Israel Burgess. He was born September 24, 1852, in Salt Lake City, Utah, and died April 1, 1909, at Vernal. His father was Samuel Israel Burgess, who was born in England in 1821. His mother was Miranda Hartwell. She was born in 1828 and she and Samuel were married December 12, 1850. *Mary A. Oaks Burgess (Brown)* was born November 30, 1862, daughter of Hyrum and Sarah Ann Woods Oaks. Mary died in August, 1930, at Vernal.

Mary Oaks spent her early years living on a homestead at the mouth of Daniel Canyon.

When she and Tom were married they lived in Heber a few years and later moved to a farm in Daniel Canyon, close to where the Strawberry canal headgate is now located. They raised all kinds of vegetables, also watermelons and peanuts. Small fruits were also grown. The Indians bothered them a lot for their garden produce and food.

They were the parents of nine children: Cleo Ann, Sara Miranda, Mary LaVina, Julia, Laura Elizabeth, Mabel, Hazel, Hyrum Sterling, and Cora Abigail.

Julia and Laura (twins) drowned in the Provo River when Mary was driving across it in a light wagon in the month of March. The high water floated the bed off the running gears, it tipped over, and they were all in the water. The children were buried in Heber Cemetery.

Thomas and Mary left Daniel to go to make their home in Vernal in 1897, where Tom died, and Mary was a widow many years. She was unusually gifted in the making of quilts and all sorts of fancy work, which won her recognition in several states of the West and took a number of prizes at various exhibits.

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EDWARD AND CELESTIA CLARISSA BROMLEY BUYS



Edward Buys was born February 10, 1841, at La Harp, Hancock County, Illinois, son of Hyrum D. and Elizabeth Huntington Buys. He married Celestia Cla-

rissa Bromley on March 23, 1857, in the Salt Lake Endowment House. She was born on June 25, 1849, at Dawsby, Lincolnshire, England, daughter of William and Sarah Bullimore Bromley. He married Margaret Hamilton on June 14, 1876. She was born October 1, 1859, at Spanish Fork, daughter of Henry and Margaret Hamilton. She left him. Edward died January 7, 1914. Celestia died October 28, 1938.

Edward Buys was the eldest son of Hyrum D. Buys, who was born October 22, 1802, in New York City. Elizabeth Huntington Buys was born February 10, 1813, in Albany, New York.

Edward came to Utah on September 15, 1850, in Captain David Evans' company, with his parents, who settled in Bountiful, Utah.

Hyrum was a shoemaker by trade. He furnished a team and helped to get rock to build the Salt Lake Temple. He died quite young, leaving his widow with nine children. Edward worked to help his mother support the family.

Edward met Celestia when he was playing at a dance in Bountiful. She came with her parents to America from England in 1850, as converts to the LDS Church. They came to Utah in June, 1865, with the Samuel D. White company.

They lived in Bountiful, then Salt Lake, and were asked to come to Heber Valley to help make settlements. They came to Charleston and lived on the Joseph E. Taylor farm while Edward built a home. He built the first shingle-roofed house in Charleston. They moved east to Big Hollow from Charleston, where they became the first settlers in this new settlement, which was called Buysville, for Edward Buys. Soon the William Bromleys came, then the Wings, Thackers, Bancrofts, Penfolds, Wahlquists, Andersons, McDonalds, Nelsons, McGuires and others.

Edward built a home with large rooms and added one large room where all Church meetings and other activities were held.

Edward was set apart as superintendent of the Sunday School and Celestia as a Sunday School teacher. William Bromley took care of the Sacrament. Celestia was chosen first president of the Primary Association by Eliza R. Snow and Emmeline B. Wells, and was set apart by Bishop Nymphus C.

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Murdock and Edward Buys, his counselor. She remained president of the Primary until they moved to Heber in 1887.

Edward was a High Priest for 15 years and county surveyor for eight years. He was deputy sheriff several years, until suffering a stroke which forced his resignation. He opened the first school in Buysville, Wasatch County. He surveyed Daniel Creek and Timpanogos irrigation water by acre feet and homesteads in Buysville and Daniel. He worked for Brigham Young and his brother on the railroad. He was buried in the Charleston cemetery.

Celestia Buys, better known as "Aunt Clara," was loved by everyone who knew her. She was hurt badly when young and had to use crutches. She never complained, no matter how difficult her life became. She always had a smile for everyone and lived an active, useful life.

She, being an expert with the needle, made all the clothes for the family, including suits for her husband. After she moved to Heber she and Mrs. Duncan opened a millinery shop, both being very adept in making hats and dresses. Mrs. Nymphus Murdock and Mrs. Danielson bought her first hats. Finally illness prevented her from continuing her work. She fell and broke her hip and shoulder, so had to go about in a wheel chair.

In Heber they were neighbors to President Abram Hatch, whose father came to Utah in the same company as the Bromleys. Celestia was one of the first members of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, being the oldest pioneer in Heber at the time of death. She was 89 years old and is buried in Charleston. Her daughter Clara and husband, Alma Cummings, cared for her until her death. They now live in her home.

Edward and Celestia were the parents of: Hyrum D., William Edward, Sarah Elizabeth, Amanda C., Mary Ann, Joseph H., Charlotte, Alma, Martha R., Archie D., Daniel H., Clara May and Celestia C.

As it was a practice request of the Church to practice polygamy, Edward married Margaret Hamilton on June 14, 1876. They separated in 1887 and Margaret married Henry Boren, and they moved to Idaho.

Edward and Margaret's children are: Henry D., Alice J., Margaret J., Rhoda A., Melissa, Matta E. and Edna A.

Ed Buys
Homesteaded
farm
in
Daniel
Creek
Buysville
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